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Re: SB 1089 sections 23 – 29

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Michael Weinberg, and I have been providing behavior analysis services for nearly 35 years, and have been practicing as a behavior analyst, and also licensed psychologist, in the state of Connecticut for over 10 years. I was formerly with the Director of Psychology at Southbury Training School, and currently serve as a behavior consultant with CT DDS, as well as other consultative services. I have doctorate in psychology with specialization in behavior analysis and previously served a 5 year term as an appointee to the Practice Board for the Association for Behavior Analysis, International.

I am writing you in support of the SB 1089, which includes sections 23-29, pertaining to licensure for behavior analysts practicing in the state of Connecticut. Over the last five years, Connecticut has enacted a number of laws supporting the development of this professional discipline, including insurance funding for Behavior Analysis services for children with autism.

These pieces of legislation have helped provide behavior analysis services by qualified professionals providing an increase in quality of services and ethical practices, which has increased consumer protection. However, to further ensure practice of behavior analysis by qualified, competent professionals, and enhance consumer protection, licensure is a necessary next step.

Licensure will also serve to increase service provision to the many individuals in the state of Connecticut still in need of behavior analysis services, which has been demonstrated in the research literature to be the single most effective methodology for treatment and intervention for autism spectrum disorders.

I believe strongly that licensure for behavior analysts will provide increased competent practice, consumer protection, and services for those needing intervention using Applied Behavior Analysis methods.

Please feel free to contact me if I can answer any questions or be of assistance.

Respectfully Submitted by:

*Michael Weinberg, Ph.D., LP, BCBA-D*

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